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Agenda item 164

Observer status for the East African Community in the General Assembly

Report of the Sixth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Metod **Špaček** (Slovakia)

I. Introduction

1. The item entitled "Observer status for the East African Community in the General Assembly" was included in the provisional agenda of the fifty-eighth session of the General Assembly at the request of Kenya, Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania.

2. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 19 September 2003, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include the item in its agenda and to allocate it to the Sixth Committee.

3. The Sixth Committee considered the item at its 2nd and 4th meetings, on 6 and 9 October 2003. The views of the representatives who spoke during the Committee's consideration of the item are reflected in the relevant summary records (A/C.6/58/SR.2 and 4).

4. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it a letter dated 4 September 2003 from the representatives of Kenya, Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/58/232).

II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.6/58/L.3

5. At the 2nd meeting, on 6 October, the representative of Uganda, on behalf of Australia, Burundi, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, the Gambia, Georgia, Ghana, Guatemala, Kenya, Madagascar, Malawi, Portugal, Rwanda, the Sudan, Uganda, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United Republic of Tanzania, the United States of America and Zimbabwe, subsequently joined by Cameroon, Djibouti, Lesotho, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, South Africa and Ukraine,

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introduced a draft resolution entitled "Observer status for the East African Community in the General Assembly" (A/C.6/58/L.3).

6. At its 4th meeting, on 9 October, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.6/58/L.3 without a vote (see para. 7).

III. Recommendation of the Sixth Committee

7. The Sixth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Observer status for the East African Community in the General Assembly

The General Assembly,

Wishing to promote cooperation between the United Nations and the East African Community,

1. *Decides* to invite the East African Community to participate in the sessions and the work of the General Assembly in the capacity of observer;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take the necessary action to implement the present resolution.